

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claim 1.

Please cancel claim 2.

Please cancel claim 3.

Please cancel claim 4.

Please cancel claim 5.

Please cancel claim 6.

Please cancel claim 7.

Please cancel claim 8.

Please cancel claim 9.

Please cancel claim 10.

Please cancel claim 11.

12. (currently amended) A seam for use in sealing ductwork, said seam having a male end portion integrally formed with said ductwork, said seam comprising:

a female end portion integrally formed with said ductwork; and

wherein said female end portion includes a first fold which is bent at a break point of a wall of said ductwork ~~said duct wall~~ to extend at a hemmed angle towards an interior of said ductwork, a second fold which is bent back upon said first fold and extends substantially adjacent to said break point, a third fold beginning substantially adjacent to said break point and extending substantially parallel to said wall ~~said duct wall~~, and a fourth fold which is bent back against said third fold to define a female groove for accommodating said male end portion therein.

13. (original) A seam for ductwork according to claim 12, said seam further comprising:

a sealing fold integrally formed at a distal end of said fourth fold, said sealing fold being bent at a sealing angle to said fourth fold prior to said male portion being inserted into said female groove.

14. (original) The seam for ductwork according to claim 12, wherein:

said hemmed angle is between 10 to 60 degrees.

15. (original) The seam for ductwork according to claim 12, wherein:

said hemmed angle is approximately 30 degrees.

16. (original) The seam for ductwork according to claim 12, wherein:

said sealing angle is between 45 to 60 degrees.

Please cancel claim 17.

Please cancel claim 18.

Please cancel claim 19.

20. (previously amended) A method for forming a seam for ductwork having a male end portion integrally formed at a distal end of a duct wall, said method comprising the steps of:

integrally forming a female end portion at another distal end of said duct wall;
and

integrally forming said female end portion includes bending a first fold beginning at a break point of said duct wall to extend at a hemmed angle towards an interior of said ductwork, bending a second fold back upon said first fold to extend substantially adjacent to said break point, bending a third fold beginning substantially adjacent said break point and extending substantially parallel to said duct wall, and bending a fourth fold back against said third fold to define a female groove for accommodating said male end portion therein.

21. (original) The method for forming a seam for ductwork according to claim 20, said method further comprising the steps of:

integrally forming a sealing fold at a distal end of said fourth fold; and
bending said sealing fold to be transverse to said female groove prior to said male portion being inserted into said female groove.